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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Nancy E. Yorke
Name

Nancy E. Yorke
Signature

March 17, 2003
Date

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Liu et al.

Serial No.: 09/806,087 - Case No.: 20330P

Filed: July 02, 2001

For: DELTA 6 FATTY DESATURASE

Art Unit:
1646

Examiner:
J.F. Murphy

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MAR 26 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/25

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.143

Sir:

Responsive to the outstanding Office Action dated February 25, 2003, in the above-identified application, having a ONE (1) month period for response which expires March 25, 2003. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the following provisional election.

REMARKS

The Examiner has advanced a four (4) way Restriction Requirement.

With respect to the restriction requirement, the Examiner requires Applicants to elect one of four (4) inventions allegedly disclosed in the above application.

Group I, claims 1-5 drawn to polynucleotides, expression vectors and host cells.

Group II, claims 6-9, drawn to a protein of SEQ ID NO:2

Group III, claims 10-16, drawn to a method of determining whether a substance binds to a protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

Group IV, claim 17, drawn to an antibody.